

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
PUBLIC ACT SUMMARY



PA 13-169—HB 6365

*Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee
Appropriations Committee*

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE ISSUANCE OF INITIAL TEACHER
CERTIFICATES TO GRADUATES OF THE CONNECTICUT
ALTERNATE ROUTE TO CERTIFICATION PROGRAM**

SUMMARY: This act creates a third way for the State Board of Education (SBE) to issue initial educator certificates. Under existing law, SBE must issue them to otherwise qualified applicants who have graduated with a bachelor's degree from either (1) an SBE-approved teacher education program or (2) another program approved by SBE or a college or university (a) accredited by the Board of Regents for Higher Education (BOR) or SBE or (b) regionally accredited. The act requires SBE to also issue initial educator certificates to those who have graduated from the summer or weekend and evening Alternative Route to Certification (ARC) program, administered by the Office of Higher Education.

Applicants who have completed the ARC program must also satisfy two requirements in existing law: completion of (1) teaching training equivalents required by SBE and accredited by BOR and (2) a subject area major, unless waived by SBE. The law allows SBE to waive subject area major requirements so that certification applicants or certified employees may teach in a subject shortage area. Certified employees may substitute passage of an SBE-approved subject area test for the subject area requirements.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2013

OLR Tracking: MGS:SP:PF:ts